

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

**ABSTRACT**

Forest Department - Diversion of 1105.00 ha. of forest land in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited for underground coal mining in Indaram Reserve forest of Mancherial Division in Andhra Pradesh, in third renewal of mining lease – Permission – Accorded – Orders – Issued.

-----  
**ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O Ms. No. 73**

**Dated:23-08-2013.**

**Read the following:-**

1. From PCCF, AP, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No.32770/08-F1, dt.23.06.2009.
2. State Govt. letter No. 4380 /For.I(I)/2009-1, dt.24-07-2009.
3. From GoI, MoEF, New Delhi Lr. F. No.8-5/1988-FC(pt.), dt.23-12-2010.
4. State Govt. letter No.4380 /For.I(I)/2009, dt.23-05-2011.
5. From GoI, MoEF, New Delhi Lr. F. No.8-5/1988-FC(pt.), dt.04-02-2013.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER:**

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad in his letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 1105.00 ha. of forest land in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited for underground coal mining in Indaram Reserve forest of Mancherial Division in Andhra Pradesh, in third renewal of mining lease and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (C) Act, 1980.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above.

3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, have accorded their approval in-principle (Stage-I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. The State Government vide letter 4<sup>th</sup> read above, have furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, while according in-principle (Stage-I) approval. The State Government vide further letter dated. 16-11-2012 have furnished certain additional information as desired by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, in their letter 5<sup>th</sup> read above, have accorded their approval (Stage-II) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 1105.00 ha. of forest land in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for underground coal mining in Indaram Reserve forest of Mancherial Division in Andhra Pradesh, in third renewal of mining lease, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, for diversion of 1105.00 ha. of forest land, in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for underground coal mining in Indaram Reserve forest of Mancherial Division in Andhra Pradesh, in third renewal of mining lease, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.

Contd..2

::2::

- (ii) The State Government shall charge the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the ad-hoc CAMPA.
- (iii) The User Agency shall surrender the balance 685.00 hectare forest land in the mining lease to the State Forest Department after its reclamation
- (iv) The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- (v) The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulating) Act, 1957, or the Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 20 years.
- (vi) User Agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located within the mining lease.
- (vii) The User Agency shall undertake de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks / water bodies, whenever required.
- (viii) The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (Southern Zone), Bangalore. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may recommend to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, suitable penal action to be taken against the proponent.
- (ix) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- (x) The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
- (xi) The boundary of mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, DGPS coordinates, forward and back bearing and distance from adjoining pillars etc.
- (xii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.

::3::

- (xiii) User Agency shall submit annual self-monitoring report, indicating status of compliance to the conditions stipulated in the approval, to the State Government and the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry, and
- (xiv) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and the User Agency shall comply with any other condition that the Southern Regional Office of this Ministry, Bangalore and this ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, and.
- (xv) User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. SAMUEL,  
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

**Copy to:**

The Inspector General of Forests,  
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003

The Chairman & Managing Director,  
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Hyderabad.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.